

# CAB

NEW YORK'S CABARET, COMEDY AND CULTURE MONTHLY

## Two Hearts Over Easy

"Two Hearts Over Easy" is something between a musical and a cabaret show. The concept is simple: two cousins who meet regularly for Sunday brunch chat, gossip, and reminisce. Their conversation in a cafe segues neatly into scenes from the past, acted and sung by the cast of four. The characters have an engaging self consciousness; they argue with the choice of flashbacks and complain about their lines. This light-handed echo of Pirandello does not destroy the credibility of the performances, and in fact works well with the slightly surreal aspects of the piece which result from simple staging, few props, and a cast of four which does the work of a dozen.

The main characters are the cousins, currently played by Paula Newman and Robert W. Cabell (who also wrote and directed). Although Cabell is currently appearing by default, he should seriously consider continuing indefinitely. His presence has quite conviction as he plays a man dealing with his past and present. Newman displays fine and subtle acting at times, but her voice seems weak, and her personality becomes submerged in several scenes. All other roles are played by Randy Weiss and Lynn Halverson, whose main characters are the bartender and waitress, respectively, at the cafe. These hard-working actors get to show off their versatility and stamina, most notably when each must play several characters at once. Both create real people in all of their roles, and are particularly sympathetic and funny in their main roles. Halverson has a fine comic touch with a song, and is a real scene-stealer as various best friends and relatives. Weiss gives unexpected depth to a pretty-boy part, and is remarkably convincing in a wide range of roles.

## CABARET REVIEWS

A variety of musical styles makes sure we are not bored, and consistently interesting lyrics make us listen. Ranging from a sixties-style "Talk About Boys" and several very funny songs about sex to an absolutely heart-breaking love ballad, "With the Last Breath I Breathe," the songs display a clear-eyed and wry view of life that can only come from a true romantic. "Two Hearts Over Easy" is an appealing piece of musical theatre which will be running through June at Don't Tell Mama.

—Maya T. Amis